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| 22879 7590 08/13/2008 HEWLETT PACKARD COMPANY P O BOX 272400, 3404 E. HARMONY ROAD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ADMINISTRATION FORT COLLINS, CO 80527-2400 | | | | |
| EXAMINER RODRIGUEZ, LENNIN R | | | | |
| ART UNIT | | PAPER NUMBER | | |
| 2625 | | | | |
| NOTIFICATION DATE | | DELIVERY MODE | | |
| 08/13/2008 | | ELECTRONIC | | |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/635,474

Applicant(s)

WIECHERS ET AL.

Examiner

LENNIN R. RODRIGUEZ

Art Unit

2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 June 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 4, 7-9, 11, 14 and 17-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 4, 7-9, 11, 14 and 17-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SF/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 4/21/2008
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. In view of the appeal brief filed on 6/13/2008, PROSECUTION IS HEREBY REOPENED. A new ground of rejection is set forth below.

To avoid abandonment of the application, appellant must exercise one of the following two options:

(1) file a reply under 37 CFR 1.111 (if this Office action is non-final) or a reply under 37 CFR 1.113 (if this Office action is final); or,

(2) initiate a new appeal by filing a notice of appeal under 37 CFR 41.31 followed by an appeal brief under 37 CFR 41.37. The previously paid notice of appeal fee and appeal brief fee can be applied to the new appeal. If, however, the appeal fees set forth in 37 CFR 41.20 have been increased since they were previously paid, then appellant must pay the difference between the increased fees and the amount previously paid.

A Supervisory Patent Examiner (SPE) has approved of reopening prosecution by signing below.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments, see appeal brief, filed on 6/13/2008, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1, 4, 7-9, 11, 14 and 17-19 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) and 35 U.S.C. 103(a) have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Laverty et al. (US 6,429,947) and Lahey et al. (US 6,587,217).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1, 4, 7-9, 11, 14 and 17-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Laverty et al. (US 6,429,947) in view of Lahey et al. (US 6,587,217).

(1) regarding claims 1 and 11:

Laverty '947 discloses a method of managing workflow in a commercial printing environment including a designer location (column 10, lines 50-61, where the customer is the designer location) and a print service provider location (Fig. 4), said method comprising:

creating at the designer location a print job to be printed at the print service provider location (column 10, lines 50-55, where the user creates the print job on his own computer following provider's indications);

establishing a closed-loop communication link between the designer location and the print service provider location (column 11, lines 4-15, where the communication is being established between the print shop client and the print shop via Internet);

the designer location obtaining updated device configuration information from the print service provider location (column 16, lines 14-25, where the designer receives

information about the devices) via said closed-loop communication link (column 11, lines 4-15);

creating a press ready file at the designer location that encompasses both said print job and said job ticket (column 10, lines 50-61, where the print ready file is been created at he client's computer and all the information about the way the job should be created (job ticket) is included);

submitting said press ready file to the print service provider location via said closed-loop communication link (column 10, lines 58-61, where the order is sent to the printer as a press ready file and 406 in Fig. 4 is the network);

processing said print job at the print service provider location (column 10, lines 58-61, where the order is sent to the printer as a press ready file); and

transmitting over said closed-loop communication link continuously updated status information to the designer location so as to keep the designer location apprised of a production status of said print job at the print service provider location, said status information including an indication of tasks that have already been performed in relation to the print job and a current task being performed in relation to the print job (column 16, lines 14-25, where the designer receives information about the devices and column 16, lines 59-61 and column 17, lines 1-6).

Lavery '947 discloses all the subject matter as described above except creating a job ticket at the designer location that specifies production devices of the print service provider to be used to process said print job and processing instructions for the print service provider location;

However, Lahey '217 teaches creating a job ticket at the designer location (column 7, lines 50-53) that specifies production devices of the print service provider to be used to process said print job (Fig. 5a and column 8, lines 36-43, where the user select the devices to be used in the printing process) and processing instructions for the print service provider location (column 7, lines 50-53, where the options presented in the GUI are specific to the provider and the client is selecting and adding them to the ticket);

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made creating a job ticket at the designer location that specifies production devices of the print service provider to be used to process said print job and processing instructions for the print service provider location as taught by Lahey '217 in the system of Lavery '947. It is convenient to include in the computer a GUI to create job tickets and allow the GUI to interface with the server database and library to perform searches therein (column 3, lines 39-41).

With regard to claim 11 all the limitations are the same and because of that the same basis for the rejection of claim 1 is being used, except for performing the steps in by a computer-readable medium storing a program product disclosed in Figs. 40A and 40B.

(2) regarding claims 4 and 14:

Lavery '947 further discloses said production status being updated at a plurality of stages of the workflow (column 16, lines 14-25, where the designer receives information about the devices and column 16, lines 59-61 and column 17, lines 1-6).

(3) regarding claims 7 and 17:

Laverty '947 further discloses further comprising automatically updating said job ticket of said press ready file upon completion of each task in the workflow via said closed-loop communication link (column 16, lines 14-65, and column 17, lines 23-28 where there are updates at the same time information in the documents is been updated, this via the communication network column 11, lines 4-15).

(4) regarding claims 8 and 18:

Laverty '947 discloses all the subject matter as described above except performing automated job closing based upon information in said updated job ticket upon completion of production of said print job.

However, Lahey '217 teaches performing automated job closing based upon information in said updated job ticket upon completion of production of said print job (column 5, lines 19-25, where having libraries to facilitate updates and reprints is the definition used in the applicant's disclosure to refer to "closing", thus this column has been used).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made performing automated job closing based upon information in said updated job ticket upon completion of production of said print job as taught by Lahey '217 in the system of Laverty '947. It is convenient to include in the computer a GUI to create job tickets and allow the GUI to interface with the server database and library to perform searches therein (column 3, lines 39-41).

(5) regarding claims 9 and 19:

Laverty '947 discloses all the subject matter as described above except further comprising allowing a user at the designer location to, via the closed-loop communication link, select the print service provider location from among a plurality of print service provider locations and corresponding information on production capabilities.

However, Lahey '217 teaches allowing a user at the designer location to, via the closed-loop communication link, select the print service provider location from among a plurality of print service provider locations and corresponding information on production capabilities (column 8, lines 35-47).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made allowing a user at the designer location to, via the closed-loop communication link, select the print service provider location from among a plurality of print service provider locations and corresponding information on production capabilities as taught by Lahey '217 in the system of Laverty '947. It is convenient to include in the computer a GUI to create job tickets and allow the GUI to interface with the server database and library to perform searches therein (column 3, lines 39-41).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LENNIN R. RODRIGUEZ whose telephone number is (571)270-1678. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 7:30am - 6:00pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, King Poon can be reached on (571) 272-7440. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/King Y. Poon/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2625

/Lennin R Rodriguez/
Examiner, Art Unit 2625